

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE
ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

5-4-1

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January 22, 1942

Present: For the Coordinator of Information --

Dr. Langer, Dr. Dorn and
Mr. Koren, Secretary

Department of State --

E. Wilder Spaulding

Treasury Department --

E. L. Ulmann

Department of Commerce --

Louis Beneratsky

Navy Department --

Capt. Dudley W. Knox

War Department --

Col. F. C. Black

Library of Congress --

John H. Moriarty

Experimental Division for the
Study of War Time Communications --

Harry J. Krould

COMMITTEE:

It was agreed that the Department of Agriculture should
be invited to name a representative to the Committee.

Dr. Langer was instructed to inform the other government
departments of the existence of the Committee and of the
proper procedure for submitting requests to it for foreign
publications.

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PERSONNEL:

The Committee agreed to name Dr. Adele Kibre to the microfilming position at Lisbon at a salary of \$2300 per annum. Dr. Langer was instructed to notify her.

The Committee instructed Dr. Langer to confer with Mr. Eugene Power of University Microfilms and to instruct him on helping Dr. Kibre at Lisbon and on arranging for microfilming in London as soon as a camera is available.

For the Cairo post, Mr. John C. Wiley, now in Cairo with the first American Field Force, was thought to be a most appropriate candidate. Col. Black undertook to discover whether Mr. Wiley would be available as a cameraman for this Committee.

The Committee decided that Mr. Charles D. Cremins was the most suitable candidate for Istanbul, or failing Mr. Wiley's availability, for the post at Cairo.

Col. Black reported that he would be in contact shortly with a person who could suggest a suitable candidate for Stockholm.

Dr. Langer undertook to reach Mr. Landreth Harrison to confer with him on the possibility of setting up a micro-filming post at Berne.

Dr. Langer, Mr. Moriarty and Mr. Spaulding were appointed as a sub-Committee to select suitable candidates for the positions of cameraman, librarian and secretary in Washington.

EQUIPMENT:

Dr. Langer announced that the Coordinator of Information had already sent a Leica camera and film to Lisbon, where they would now be put at the disposal of our cameraman pending the arrival of a Recordak machine. He undertook to arrange for regular shipment of more film to foreign posts including London.

Dr. Langer announced that the Coordinator of Information had two Leica cameras on hand here which could be purchased at once by the funds of the Committee. He would see that

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they were forwarded as soon as possible to Cairo and Istanbul.

Dr. Langer would also be responsible for getting, developing and other equipment to all microfilming posts abroad.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

In order that a flow of materials may be started at once to places to which cameramen will soon be sent, the Committee instructed the Secretary to forward to Mr. Spaulding a complete list of desired publications. Dr. Spaulding undertook to send these lists to the Legations at Lisbon and Berne with the request that the respective Legations enter subscriptions for selected items on the essential list.

The Secretary was instructed to make available to Mr. Fower and Dr. Kibre a complete list of the desired publications.

Mr. Dora undertook to forward to the Committee a list of German publications reaching the British government in London.

The Committee agreed to discuss the requests of the Weather Bureau presented to the State Department and to Mr. Domsratsky at the next meeting. Dr. Krould urged that the Near Eastern material be assembled at once at Cairo for future microfilming.

TRANSPORTATION:

Dr. Langer and Col. Black undertook to make all possible effort to secure a place on a plane to Lisbon for Dr. Kibre, or failing that, to arrange ship transportation.

Col. Black notified the Committee that he will be in a position to facilitate passage by bomber ferry to the Near East and possibly later on to London.

Mr. Spaulding reported that an air pouch left Lisbon for London weekly and that airmail was available from Lisbon to New York three times a week and air courier once a week. The pouch from Switzerland goes by air to

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Lisbon; he did not know the schedule.

Dr. Langer announced that transport by Swiss truck service to Lisbon was not available to the Committee.

WE:JS